

What is claimed is:

Sub B17 1. A wireless digital CDMA communication system, including a base station and at least one subscriber unit, for transmitting a plurality of communications having independent data rates between a base station and a subscriber unit, the system comprising:

5 at least one base station comprising:

means for processing a communication for transmitting to said at least one subscriber unit including means for determining the data rate required to support said communication; and

transmission means for transmitting communications at one of a plurality of data rates having data rate selection means responsive to said determining means;

and at least one subscriber unit comprising:

means for processing a communication for transmitting to said at least one subscriber unit including means for determining the data rate required to support said communication; and

transmission means for transmitting communications at one of a plurality of data rates including data rate selection means responsive to said determining means.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein said subscriber unit further includes means for establishing a communication channel having a capacity of a first data communication rate; and means for communicating at a second data communication rate; wherein said first data communication rate is higher than said second data communication rate.

